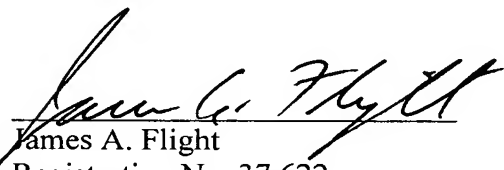




PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 20002/16652

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                 |   |                     |   |  |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|---|--|
| Applicants      | : | TOWLE et al.        | ) | I hereby certify that this paper   |
| U.S. Serial No. | : | 10/664,475          | ) | (and/or fee) is being deposited with   |
| Filed           | : | September 17, 2003  | ) | the United States Postal Service as  |
| Title           | : | METHODS AND         | ) | first class mail in an envelope  |
|                 |   | APPARATUS TO        | ) | addressed to Mail Stop Amendment,  |
|                 |   | OPTICALLY COUPLE AN | ) | Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box   |
|                 |   | OPTOELECTRONIC CHIP | ) | 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  |
|                 |   | TO A WAVEGUIDE      | ) | on this date:  |
| Art Unit        | : | 2811                | ) | <b>Dated: January 4, 2007</b>  |
| Examiner        | : | Cuong Quang Nguyen  | ) |  |
|                 |   |                     | ) | James A. Flight  |
|                 |   |                     | ) | Registration No. 37,622  |

**RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2006**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Office action dated November 30, 2006 has been carefully considered. In view of the following remarks, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

The Office action asserts that the application as contains two (2) patentably distinct species. Specifically, the Office action required an election of species between figure 3 (Species 1) and figure 4 (Species 2). Applicants hereby respectfully elect Species I (figure 3) for further examination. It is noted, however, that claims 1-23 are generic to both species. Claim 24 is specific to Species 1. Claim 25 is specific to Species 2. Because a generic claim

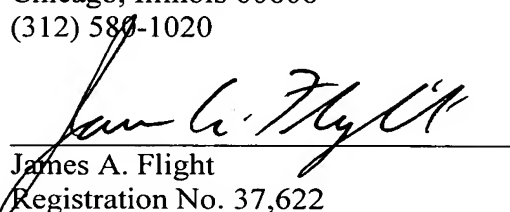
is allowable, applicants respectfully request that all species be examined together in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to refund any overpayment and charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-2455. A copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HANLEY, FLIGHT & ZIMMERMAN, LLC.  
Suite 2100  
150 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 580-1020

By:

  
James A. Flight  
Registration No. 37,622

January 4, 2007